बनते हैं इसलिए इस मद के लिए राज्यों को दी गई राशि अथवा मांग की गई राशि की मात्रा बताना संभव नहीं है । तथापि, 708.77 लाख रुपए की अनुमानित लागत के लिए मध्य प्रदेश सरकार से एक विशेष प्रस्ताव पर, कल्याण मंत्रालय ने भी मोरेना जिला में 28 गांवों को शामिल करते हुए अवरोधक बांधों के निर्माण हेतु 141.65 लाख रुपए की राशि सहायक अनुदान के रूप में संस्वी त की है । 106.23 लाख रुपए की राशि पहले ही निर्मुक्त की जा चुकी है ।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Low Wages Paid by Indian Embassies Abroad

1162. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the Indian employees locally recruited by the Embassies in countries such as the USA are being paid wages well below the subsistance level of those countries; and

(b) whether Government have examined the question in light of the security risk that is involved when the wages are so low?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K. K. TEWARI): (a) and (b) Salaries of locally recruited employees in Missions abroad are fixed on the basis of norms taking into account the wages paid by the Diplomatic Missions of other developing countries as well as by the local government for comparable jobs. The salaries are periodically reviewed in the light of financial implications and cost of living increases as is demonstrated from data published by the United Nations. Taking these factors into consideration, the wages of local staff are not unduly low so as to give rise to a security risk. Besides, Locally recruited staff do not deal with security related matters.

Draft of Eighth Five Year Plan

1163. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Planning Commission has been directed by the Prime Minister to draft the Eighth Five Year Plan to target at higher growth rate than achieved in the past; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the outline of the strategy for achieving this growth rate?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Under instructions from the Prime Minister as Chairman of the Planning Commission, the Commission is working on the implications of alternative higher growth scenarios for the 8th Five Year Plan. The related strategies will be set out in the Approach Paper for the consideration of the National Development Council.

SAARC Meeting Held at Bangalore

1164. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total expenditure incurred by Government of India on the S.A.A.R.C. meeting held at Bangalore; and

(b) what is the amount spent through the State Government and whether any amount is due to be reimbursed to that Government; if so, the reason for the delay in making the payment to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) A total expenditure of

Rs. 4.16 crores has so far been incurred by the Government of India on the Second SAARC Summit held at Bangalore. Some bills are still pending for payment which will make only a marginal difference to the total expenditure.

(b) A sum of Rs. 257.39 lakh was given in grant to State Government as per their request based on estimates prepared by them. The State Government had stated that the balance amount of expenditure would be met from their own resources. Now the State Government have estimated their total expenditure as Rs. 11.54 crore and have requested for a further reimbursement. The claim is being examined by the Central Government in consultation with the State Government.

Irrigation Projects of Maharashtra

1165. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of major and medium irrigation projects of Maharashtra which are lying pending with Government for approval with their details; and

(b) what are the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) Out of two major and eight medium irrigation projects, two major and one medium projects have been appraised in Central Water Commission. The remaining seven medium projects are not included in the Seventh Five Year Plan.

Rise in Prices of Black and White T.V. Sets

1166. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that prices of black and white T.V. sets have recently been increased;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps are being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b) There has been a marginal increase in the price of B&W TV sets. Indian Television Manufacturers Association (ITMA) have informed the Government that an increase in the price of Black & White TV sets has become inevitable in view of the increase in price of B&W picture tubes and other components.

(c) The following measures have been taken by Government to ensure good quality and reliability of TV sets to promote indigenous TV industry to keep the prices of the product at reasonable level:

(i) Issuing industrial approvals liberally with viable production capacity so that economies of scale are derived and healthy competition encouraged.

(ii) Broadbanding of Industrial Licence approvals for entertainment electronics in the audio and video product categories.

(iii) Electronic components industry has been delicensed and import of technology in this sector is liberally permitted.

(iv) Re-endorsement of industrial capacities with reference to the minimum economic scale of operation has been allowed for Colour Television production.